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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 134626

13
ORIGIN ARA-04

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /005 R

66644
DRAFTED BY: ARA/CAR: PWHILBURN,JR:JANET
APPROVED BY: ARA/CAR: JRBURKE
---------- 047013
R 102118Z JUL 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
AMCONSUL NASSAU

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, HA, DR, BF
SUBJ: CUBAN OBSERVERS PROMINENT AT CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY
TREATY SIGNING

REF: POS 736 (NOTAL)

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BRIDGETOWN CARACAS
GEORGETOWN KINGSTON CINCLANT/POLAD FROM PORT OF SPAIN
06 JUL REPEATED TO YOU:

QUOTE PORT OF SPAIN 805

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, TD, XL, CU
SUBJ: CUBAN OBSERVERS PROMINENT AT CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY TREATY
SIGNING

REF: POS 0736 (NOTAL)

1. CUBAN SIX MAN OBSERVER DELEGATION TO JULY 4 SIGNING
OF CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY TREATY DOMINATED THE EARLY MEDIA
COVERAGE OF THE CEREMONY WHEN IT WAS FIRST OF MAJOR
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DELEGATIONS TO ARRIVE, COMING JULY 3 BY LLYUSHIN 18

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JET-PROP AIR CUBANA AIRCRAFT. THE DELEGATION WAS HEADED BY FOREIGN MINISTER RAUL ROA GARCIA AND INCLUDED DR. JULIO GONZALES NOREIGA, VICE RECTOR OF HAVANA UNIVERSITY, RAPHAEL HERNANDEZ, DEPUTY CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, EPIFANIO DUAD, DUAD, AIDE TO THE MINISTER, MAURILLIO HERNANDEZ RODRIGUEZ AND JORGE LEYVA RODRIGUEZ OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. CUBAN AMBASSADOR TO PORT OF SPAIN RESIDENT IN NEW YORK DR. RICARDO ALARCON QUESADA WAS IN ATTENDANCE. RAUL ROA REPORTEDLY ALSO CARRIED AN INVITATION TO GOTT TO SEND A DELEGATION TO THE JULY 26 CELEBRATION IN HAVANA.

2. ROA TOLD THE PRESS THAT HE VIEWED THE MOVE TOWARD A CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY AS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE FOR THE REGION AND STRESSED THAT CUBA AND THE COMMONWEALTH CARIBBEAN WERE LINKED BY A COMMON DESTINY. HE SAID THAT THERE WERE POSITIVE PROSPECTS FOR TRADE, ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL EXCHANGES BETWEEN CUBA AND THE FOUR COUNTRIES.

3. A BRIEF PRESS NOTICE REPORTED THAT DEPUTY FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER PELEGRIN DE LA LUZ TORRAS WITH TWO OTHERS CONSULTED WITH DR. ROA IN PORT OF SPAIN JULY 6 ENROUTE TO CARACAS ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

4. AMONG OTHER GUESTS OF SPECIAL INTEREST WERE OAS SECRETARY GENERAL GALO PLAZA, US VIRGIN ISLAND LT GOVERNOR ANTHNIEL C. OTTLEY, ROBERT OUKO, MINISTER IN CHARGE OF COMMON MARKET AFFAIRS OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY, SURINAM MINISTER-PRESIDENT SEDNEY, GRENADA PREMIER GAIRY AND ST. VINCENT PREMIER MITCHELL. NOTABLY MISSING WERE THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF HAITI AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, THE GOVERNOR OF PUERTO RICO, AND A REPRESENTATIVE FROM MONTSERRAT AND BELIZE.

5. COMMENT: WHILE DISPROPORTIONATE PUBLIC ATTENTION TO LARGE CUBAN DELEGATION MAY HAVE BEEN DISTRESSING TO GOTT, IT AT LEAST MASKED LOW TURNOUT OF INVITED DIGNITARIES FROM NON-COMMONWEALTH CARIBBEAN. CUBAN ENDORSEMENT OF TREATY AND INDIRECTLY OF GOTT MAY ALSO UNDERCUT SOME ELEMENTS OF LOCAL OPPOSITION.
MARSHALL

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TAGS: PFOR, HA, DR, BF
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